Appendix A

PCB Testing Results
Allendale School, Pittsfield, MA

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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M E M O R A N D U M

To: **Phil Adamo, M.D., Chairman, Pittsfield Board of Health**

From: **Suzanne K. Condon, Associate Commissioner, Center for Environmental Health**

Re: **Allendale School PCB Sampling**

Date: **Tuesday, December 6, 2005**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an evaluation of the recent dust wipe, air filter, and indoor air testing for polychlorinated biphenyl compounds (PCBs) at the Allendale Elementary School in Pittsfield, Massachusetts (see Figure 1). The testing was prompted by a request for assistance from the Pittsfield Board of Health and concerns about ongoing activities at a nearby General Electric site being used for disposal of soil contaminated with PCBs. The results of the overall indoor air environmental evaluation are the subject of a separate report. This memo focuses on PCB exposure concerns.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Center for Environmental Health (MDPH/CEH), Environmental Toxicology Program and Emergency Response/Indoor Air Quality Program staff conducted an initial site visit at the Allendale School on Tuesday, November 22, 2005, during which preliminary information was collected (e.g., building design, ventilation conditions, indicator environmental tests), and locations throughout the school were identified for subsequent PCB testing. Ms. Ann Kuhn, Principal of the Allendale School, accompanied MDPH on the site visit. MDPH/CEH contracted with an environmental consulting firm, Environmental Compliance Services, Inc. (ECS), located in Agawam, Massachusetts, to conduct the PCB sampling and analysis at the school. On Friday, November 25, ECS staff, accompanied by MDPH/CEH Environmental Toxicology Program staff, collected 44 dust wipe and 6 air filter samples from throughout the school. On Thursday, December 1, 2005 two indoor air samples were collected over a 24-hour period, along with one outdoor air sample

(for comparison purposes). For completeness, additional surface wipe and air filters were taken during the December 1 sampling effort. Dust wipe samples were collected from 20 rooms (i.e., rooms 9, 10, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33), as well as the gymnasium and the cafeteria. Air filter samples from the univentilators were collected from rooms 15, 19, 23, 28, and 32, as well as the cafeteria. Indoor air samples previously mentioned were collected from rooms 20 and 28, as well as one outdoor sample collected outside the hallway doors between rooms 23 and 24 (see Table 1 and Figure 2).

The sample locations were chosen based on proximity of the rooms to the side of the school closest to the General Electric Hill 78 Area disposal site, as well as from both surfaces that children or teachers come into most contact with frequently (e.g., desk**s**, computer tables, play stove) and areas that are likely cleaned less frequently (e.g., bookshelves, areas of visible dust accumulation). Selection of locations for wipe samples also considered information obtained during the site visit on Tuesday, November 22, such as proximity to air supply/ventilation units. Such locations may present pathways for outdoor air to enter classrooms. Air filter samples were taken from filters located in classroom ventilation units, most of which faced the disposal area. Indoor air samples were collected in rooms chosen based on their proximity to the side of the school toward the disposal site, the fact that there were doors in these rooms that opened directly outdoors facing the disposal site, or other unique factors.

All samples were delivered to Spectrum Analytical Laboratory in Springfield, Massachusetts, for analysis for the presence of PCBs. Analysis for all samples was conducted using standard U.S. Environmental Protection Agency methods: SW846, 8082 for surface wipe and filter samples, and TO-4A for air samples.

The results of the surface wipe samples (a total of 88 samples) were all non-detectable for PCBs. No detectable PCBs were measured in a total of 12 air filter samples. Finally, neither of the two indoor air samples had any detection of PCBs nor did the outdoor air sample taken for background purposes.

These results do not indicate opportunities for exposure to PCBs in the indoor environment at the Allendale School at this time based on this testing. The school's interior was generally noted as very clean.

The MDPH/CEH is committed to continuing to work with the local board of health, school officials, community residents, elected officials, and state and federal regulatory agencies to address PCB-related health concerns at the Allendale School. If you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact us at 617-624-5757.

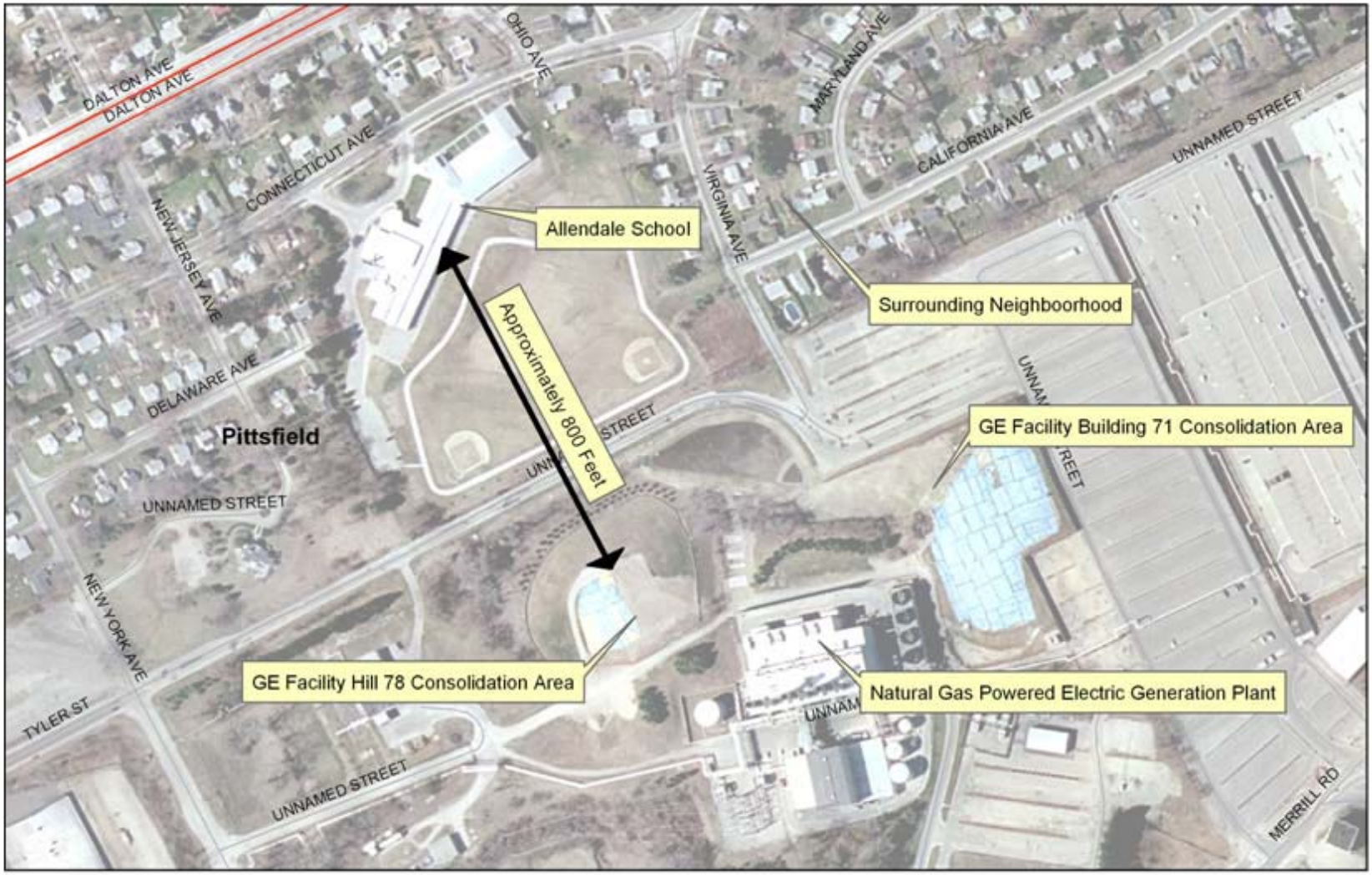

Figure 1. Allendale School, Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Center for CEH Environmental Health

800 Feet

MASS GIS

Table 1. Location and Types of Sampling

Room	Dust Wipe	Vent Filter	Air
#9	X		
#10	X		
#15	X	X	
#17	X		
#18	X		
#19	X	X	
#20	X		X
#21	X		
#22	X		
#23	X	X	
#24	X		
#25	X		
#26	X		
#27	X		
#28	X	X	X
#29	X		
#30	X		
#31	X		
#32	X	X	
#33	X		
Cafeteria	X	X	
Gymnasium	X		
Outdoors			X

Figure 2. Allendale School Floor Plan